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County Seeks Congressional Help In Ames Dump Closure

The Kitsap County Commissioners hope to enlist the aid of their Congressmen in closing Ames Trash Dump on the New Belfair Highway.

South Kitsap Commissioner William Mahan sent a telegram yesterday to Sen. Henry Jackson, Sen. Warren Magnuson and Rep. Floyd Hicks, asking that the Navy be pressured to find somewhere else to dump its refuse.

Ames operators hold the contract for disposal of refuse from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The county commissioners ordered the dump closed last month, but the Navy has continued to dump there, despite requests from the county that

they stop.

"I strongly object to the U.S. Navy flagrantly violating Kitsap County ordinance of disposing of Navy trash in a dump that is not licensed by Kitsap County Health Department," Mahan wired the three officials.

"The tremendous volume of trash dumped by the Navy is creating a public health and safety problem and it is difficult for me to understand why the Navy has refused to take positive action to locate a properly licensed dump to dispose of their trash," the telegram continued.

It was the only shot fired at yesterday's county commissioners' meeting in the running bat-

tle between the county and dump operators Mel Marler and Kenneth Crawford.

County Sanitarian Joe Weigel was at the meeting, though, and reported that another fire had erupted at the dump Saturday, but said the Sunnyslope volunteer fire department was called and fought the blaze.

The commissioners originally ordered an end to all burning at the dump, along with a number of other concessions by the operators. They later ordered it closed, saying they saw no honest effort to make those concessions.

Marler and Crawford have said they will fight the order in court.

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